

# INTRODUCING THE “POWERFUL PERPETRATORS” PROJECT: REGULATING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT AMONGST TRUSTED PROFESSIONALS

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**POWERFUL PERPETRATORS**

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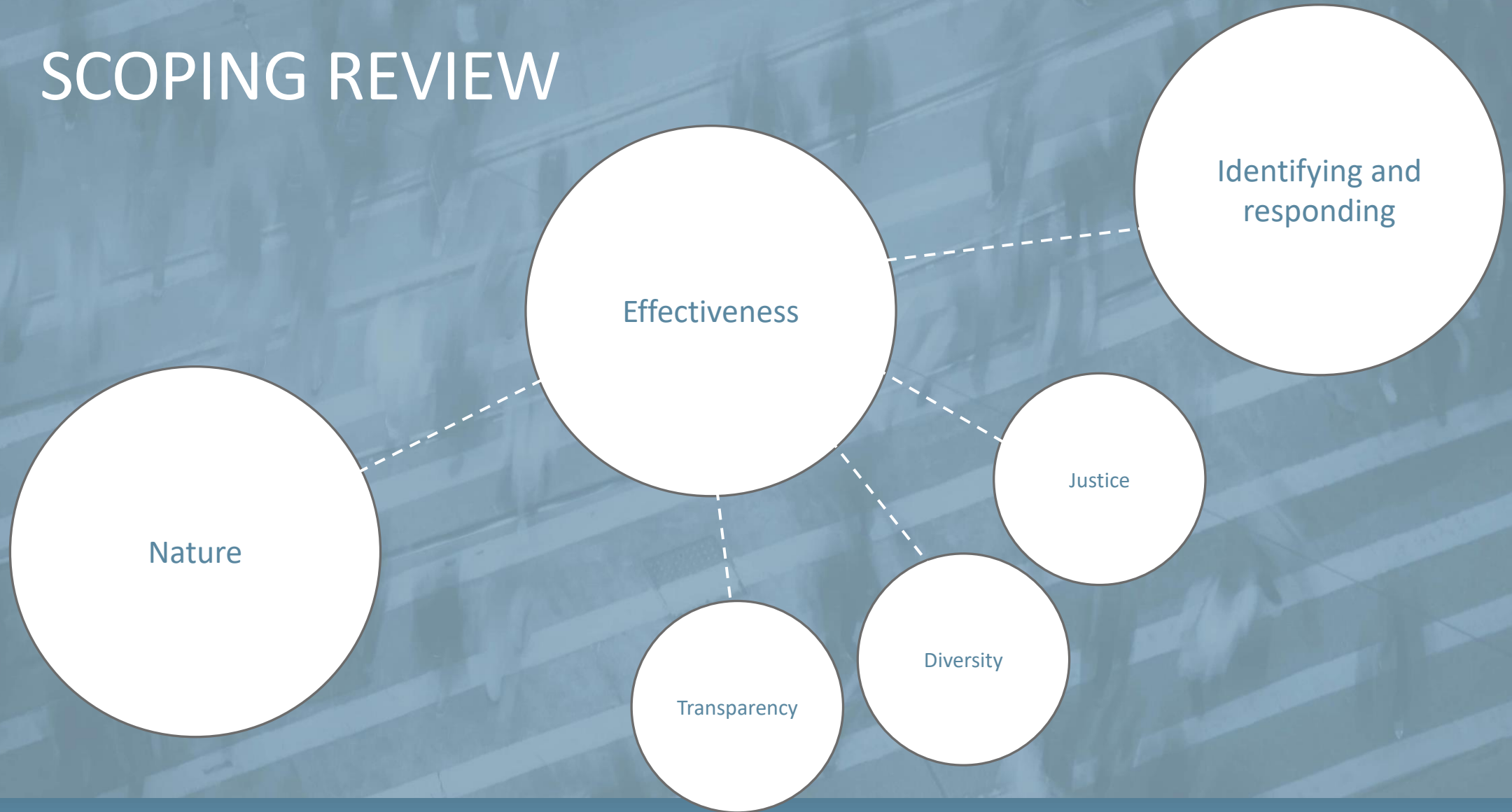
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# POWERFUL PERPETRATORS



# SCOPING REVIEW



# NATURE

- **Gendered**
- **Law:** 1 in 3 women vs 1 in 14 men report sexual harassment
- **Military:** 88% perpetrators men, 83% victims women in investigated sexual misconduct cases
- **Doctors:** 13% women vs 4% men experience inappropriate physical conduct (past 2 years)







# TRANSPARENCY

- Patricia King and colleagues
- Research observations of tribunals
- Catholic church “secret” archives
- Hyperlinks to Fitness to Practice decisions

(King et al. 2021; King, Chaudhry, and Staz 2021)



# DIVERSITY

- **Military tribunals:** more senior officers, no requirement of women until 2022
- **Medical tribunals:** both professional and lay members
- **Importance of racial diversity**

(Pendo et al. 2021)



# NATURE OF ADMINISTRATIVE JUSTICE



MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT



SHAME



BEST PRACTICE?



# IDENTIFYING AND RESPONDING

*the athletes relied on one another to determine whether his treatment was “normal,” and because it occurred so regularly, they reassured each other that the treatments must be legitimate, and their concerns must be wrong.*

*Victim \*\*\*\* explains that while “[a]t first it felt awkward, scary, weird, invasive, and just not right,” her teammates reassured her that “they are real treatments and I have nothing to be worried about.”*

(Stenberg 2022, 51)





# IDENTIFICATION

- **Glen Gabbard's typology:**
  - “Psychopathic predator”?
  - “Lovesick” practitioner?

(Steinberg, Alpert, and Courtois  
2021)



# RESPONSES

*I ran back to the ward terrified, the nurse in charge told me to forget about it and not to draw trouble on myself. I reported it the following day and had a meeting with the head of nursing, matron and my then manager. All three of them convinced me not take it any further, not to get the police involved, I was getting married the following month and did I really want all that hassle. Nothing was done about it, in fact the following shift he was back on the ward and I was expected to just get on with it and help him with my patients. A colleague of mine was furious and wrote an email to his boss, the [assailant] was suspended on full pay for a week and wrote me a half-hearted one sentence apology and that was it. Looking back now I feel so stupid that I didn't stand up for myself or demand more (story number 218)*



*Powerful Perpetrators is a five year project looking at sexual misconduct and abuse perpetrated by professionals, and the regulatory and administrative justice mechanisms used to investigate and sanction their behaviour.*

About the project

Meet the team

Latest news

# THANK YOU

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